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In the claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for maintaining a personnel directory comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to edit an existing data entry of the personnel directory,  
wherein the existing data entry is stored in a current database location;  
in response to receiving the request to edit the existing data entry, copying the  
existing data entry from the current database location to create a previous data entry in a  
historical database location;  
editing the existing data entry of the personnel directory stored in the current  
database location to produce an associated data entry; and  
associating the previous data entry stored in the historical database location with  
an the associated data entry.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~previous data entry is~~  
~~stored in a historical database location and the associated data entry is stored in a current~~  
~~database location are in separate databases.~~

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of editing  
comprises changing the existing data entry to a new data entry, and  
wherein the associated data entry ~~is~~includes the new data entry.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the existing data entry ~~is~~  
includes a name of a person listed in the personnel directory, and wherein the new data  
entry ~~is~~includes a new name of the person.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of editing the  
existing data entry comprises deleting the existing data entry, and

wherein the associated data entry is includes a replacement data entry of the personnel directory.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of prompting a user to identify the replacement data entry.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of identifying the replacement data entry automatically using predefined rules.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the existing data entry corresponds to a departed person, and wherein the replacement data entry corresponds to a person who has assumed responsibilities of the departed person.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a search query looking for the previous data entry;

searching the current database for the previous data entry;

searching the historical database for the previous data entry;

identifying the associated data entry as corresponding to the previous data entry;

and

reporting the previous data entry and the associated data entry.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of reporting how the previous data entry and the associated data entry are associated.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of reporting why the previous data entry was superseded.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of receiving a search query comprises at least one of receiving the search query in a search engine of the personnel

directory and receiving the search query as a request to browse a list of data entries from at least one of the current database and the historical database.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for maintaining a personnel directory comprising:

- (a) a personnel directory application;
- (b) a current database location in communication with the personnel directory application; and
- (c) a historical database location in communication with the personnel directory application,

wherein the personnel directory application is adapted to receive a request to edit a data entry of the current database location, to copy the data entry of the current database location into the historical database location in response to receiving the request, to edit the data entry of the current database location into an edited data entry, and to associate the edited data entry of the current database location with the copied data entry of the historical database location to establish associations between up-to-date data entries of the current database location and outdated data entries of the historical database location.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the personnel directory application is adapted to copy a data entry of the current database location and into the historical database location are in separate databases, to edit the data entry of the current database into an edited data entry, and to associate the edited data entry of the current database with the copied data entry of the historical database.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[14]] 13, wherein the personnel directory application is adapted to search the current database location for the copied data

entry, to search the historical database location for the copied data entry, and to identify the copied data entry as corresponding to the edited data entry.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the personnel directory application is adapted to provide an explanation of the association between the copied data entry and the edited data entry.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the personnel directory application is adapted to copy a data entry of the current database location into the historical database location, to delete the data entry of the current database location, and to associate the copied data entry of the historical database location with a replacement data entry of the current database location.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the personnel directory application is adapted to prompt a user to determine the replacement data entry.

19. (Original) A personnel directory application comprising:

(a) a first database interface through which the personnel directory application is adapted to store current data entries in a current database;

(b) a second database interface through which the personnel directory application is adapted to store outdated data entries in a historical database; and

(c) a graphical user interface that accepts a search query for a desired outdated data entry,

wherein the personnel directory establishes associations between the current data entries in the current database and the outdated data entries in the historical database, and

wherein the graphical user interface, in response to the search query, presents the desired outdated data entry from the historical database and its associated current data entry from the current database.

20. (Original) The personnel directory application of claim 19, wherein the current database and the historical database are a single database.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for maintaining a personnel directory of an organization comprising the steps of:

copying an existing data entry at a current database location maintaining a plurality of data entries of the personnel directory into a copied data entry at a historical database location;

editing the existing data entry to create a new data entry in the current database location;

associating the new data entry at the current database location with the copied data entry at the historical database location;

receiving a search query for the copied data entry at the historical database location; and

reporting the copied data entry from the historical database location and the associated new data entry from the current database location.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of reporting how the copied data entry and the associated new data entry are associated.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the existing data entry includes a name of a member in the organization, and wherein the step of editing comprises changing the name of the member.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the ~~existing data entry and the new data entry are stored in a current database location, and wherein the copied data entry is stored in a~~ and the historical database location are in separate databases.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for maintaining a personnel directory of an organization comprising the steps of:

copying an existing data entry at a current database location maintaining a plurality of data entries of the personnel directory into a copied data entry at a historical database location maintaining a plurality of data entries;

deleting the existing data entry from the current database location;

determining a replacement data entry for the current database location;

associating the copied data entry at the historical database location with the replacement data entry at the current database location;

receiving a search query for the copied data entry at the historical database location;

reporting the copied data entry from the historical database location and the associated replacement data entry from the current database location.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of reporting how the copied data entry and the associated replacement data entry are associated.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the existing data entry includes information related to a member who is departing the organization, and wherein the replacement data entry includes information related to a replacement member of the organization who substitutes for the departing member.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of determining comprises determining an organizational position of the departing member from the existing data entry, locating a second existing data entry with the organizational position, and making the second existing data entry the replacement data entry.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of determining comprises determining a supervisor of the departing member from the existing data entry, locating a second existing data entry corresponding to the supervisor, and making the second existing data entry the replacement data entry.

30. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the step of determining comprises prompting a user to specify the replacement data entry.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the ~~replacement data entry is stored in a current database location and the copied data entry is stored in a historical database location are in separate databases.~~